Diversion of Welfare Funds to Other Use by Orissa Government

5319. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of overdraft by the Government of Orissa as on July 31, 1991;

(b) whether the Union Government have come across incidents of diversion of funds meant for welfare of backward and tribal population to other uses by the State Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps the Union Government propose to take so that such diversion of funds do not take place?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE): (a) The Government of Orissa was not in overdraft with the Reserve Bank of India as on 31st July, 1991.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d). Do not arise.

[*Translation*]

Payment of HRA and CCA to Central Government Employees in Ghaziabad

5320. SHRI RAMESH CHAND TOMAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the circumstances under which the Government started paying house rent allowance and city compensatory allowance at Delhi rates to Central Government employees working within the limits of Ghaziabad Municipality;

(b) whether these allowances are being paid at Delhi rates to the Central Government employees working in the C.G.O. Complex at Faridabad and also to the employees of the Income Tax and Excise departments working in the C.G.O. Complex, Ghaziabad;

(c) whether in other offices located in the C.G.O. Complex, Ghaziabad these allowances are being paid at the rates applicable to a C-class city and the allowance paid to the employees at Delhi rate since 1979 are being recovered from them;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the action proposed to be taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE): (a) Based on the general policy of the Government relating to grant of House Rent Allowance/Compensatory (City) Allowance on the basis of contiguity of one Municipality/Corporation to another, the Central Government employees working within the limits of Ghaziabad Municipality were granted House Rent Allowance/Compensatory (City) Allowance at Delhi rates as Ghaziabad Municipality was found contiguous to the Municipal Corporation of Delhi.

(b) to (e). The information is being collected.

[*English*]

Payment Problems to Garment Exporters

5321. SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the garment exporters have been facing difficulties due to serious payment problems;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) to (c). Government have not received any representations from garment exporters regarding any difficulty in realising payments from foreign buyers.

Indo-Pak Bilateral Trade

5322. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the areas in which Indo-Pak bilateral trade have been established;

(b) whether the Government have a proposal to improve the trade relations with Pakistan; and

(c) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c). India's exports to Pakistan broadly cover oil meals, spices, iron ore, paints and varnishes and engineering goods, whlle the principal imports from Pakistan are fruits and nuts excluding cashew nuts, textile yarn and made-up apparels. It has always been the endeavour of the Government to improve trade relations with Pakistan through bilateral discussions.

Lapses In Internal Audit of Companies

5323. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the comptroller and Auditor General of India in his Report No. 5 (Commercial) of 1990 on the Company Auditors, reports on the accounts of the Government companies, has made some comments on omissions, commissions etc. noticed during supplementary audit of accounts; and

(b) if so, the corrective measures proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE iN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) As per the provisions of Section 619 (5) of the companies Act, 1956, these comments are placed before the Annual General Meeting of the concerned Company and the corrective measures on the report are taken by the concerned Government Companies and their administrative Departments Ministries.

Revised rate of Interest on Bank Deposits

5324. DR. C. SILVERA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the rates of interest on deposits from public in the banks have been revised twice in the recent past; and

(b) if so, the details of the revised rates of interest at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. The rates of interests on deposits from public in Scheduled Commercial Banks were revised on 13.4.91 and again on 4.7.1991.

(b) The details of the revised rates of